

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 μm , comprising:

- (a) 10% to 75% by weight, based on the dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point in the range of from above 25°C to about 50°C, which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids, hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof, and at least one emulsifier; and
- (b) a water phase.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the at least one emulsifier of the wax phase is selected from the group of nonionic emulsifiers.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 μm .

29. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight of water, based on the total weight of the wax phase.

30. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase contains at least one further component selected from the group consisting of an other wax-like lipid component and an other oil component.

31. (Previously presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 30, wherein the other wax-like lipid component is selected from the group consisting of C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty alcohols, mono-, di- or triesters of glycerol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, mono- or diesters of ethylene glycol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

32. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one polymer.

33. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 32, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

35. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one humectant.

36. (Previously Presented) A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 μm comprising:

(a) 10-25% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point in the range of about 35 to about 50°C which comprises:

- (1) at least one oil or wax component selected from C₁₄₋₃₀ dialkyl(ene) carbonates, C₉₋₃₄ dicarboxylic acids or C₁₂₋₃₀ hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof,
- (2) at least one other oil,
- (3) at least one nonionic emulsifier, and

- (4) at least one other wax-like lipid component; and
- (b) 75-90% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a water phase.

37. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising 0.01 to 5.0% by weight of at least one polymer, based on the overall wax dispersion.

38. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 37, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 μm .

41. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight, based on the weight of the wax phase, of water.

42. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

43. (Previously Presented) The wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising at least one humectant.

44. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of a wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 μm , and having (a) 10-75% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point in the range of about 35 to about 50°C, which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids,

hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof and at least one emulsifier; and (b) a water phase, said process comprising:

- (1) providing a preliminary emulsion of the wax phase containing a water phase and having a temperature above the melting range of the waxes, and
- (2) introducing said preliminary emulsion, under pressure, into a polymer-containing water phase which has a temperature in the range of about 1 to 30 °C.

45. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 44, further comprising homogenizing the preliminary emulsion at least once before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

46. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 44, further comprising cooling the preliminary emulsion in a heat exchanger before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

47. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion also contains a polymer.

48. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 47, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

49. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion is introduced into the water phase of step (B) by spraying under pressure through a nozzle.

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Previously Presented) A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 24.

52. (Previously Presented) A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 36.